

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 03503 271743Z

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ACTION ARA-08

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R 271725Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3380

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3503

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, PINS, SHUM
SUBJECT: CHILEAN DETAINEES: THE ZAMORA CASE, AND CANADIAN ACTIVITIES

REFS: SANTIAGO 3443, STATE 121549

1. AT SOCIAL FUNCTION MAY 24, FRENCH AMBASSADOR LUSTIG TOLD ME THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING MADE TO GET FUGITIVE FROM DINA SERGIO ZAMORA (REFTELS) OUT OF CHILE AND INTO FRANCE. FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO TAKE HIM. THUS FAR, CHILEAN PRESS HAS CARRIED NO WORD ON ZAMORA. COMMENT: EXPULSION OF ZAMORA WOULD BE SENSIBLE WAY TO OVERCOME SITUATION OF CONTINUING TENSION WHICH WILL EXIST AS LONG AS HE REMAINS IN COUNTRY.

2. MAY 26, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ROSS TOLD ME HIS EMBASSY, AND GOC, HAD RECEIVED WORD THAT A GROUP OF WOULD-BE ASYLEES WOULD SEEK TO ENTER CANADIAN EMBASSY FOR ASYLUM AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSPORT TO CANADA. ACCORDINGLY, CHILEAN CARABINEROS WERE NOW GUARDING CANADIAN EMBASSY RESIDENCE AND CHANCERY. CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS SET A LIMIT OF 5,000 INDIVIDUALS AS TOP NUMBER IT WILL RECEIVE FROM CHILE, HAD TAKEN LINE THAT IT WOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE ACCEPT PEOPLE WHO FORCED THEIR WAY INTO CANADIAN EMBASSY PREMISES.

3. AT SAME TIME, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR STATED THAT CANADIAN OFFICIALS HAD SWUNG INTO ACTION TO FOLLOW UP ON GOC COMMITMENT

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 03503 271743Z

TO COMMUTE SENTENCES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO HAVE BEEN

TRIED AND SENTENCED (OUR CATEGORY 3) PROVIDED THEY COULD BE RESETTLED ABROAD. OFFICIALS, HE SAID, HAD VISITED 18 PRISONS OR PLACES OF DETENTION AND HAD INTERVIEWED 184 PRISONERS, WITH A VIEW TO SELECTING 100 WHO, WITH THEIR FAMILIES, WOULD BE ALLOWED TO SETTLE IN CANADA. AMBASSADOR STATED THAT, PROBABLY DUE TO CAREFUL SELECTION, BULK OF CHILEANS WHO HAD IN PAST BEEN ADMITTED TO CANADA HAD FORESWORN POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND WERE HAPPY TO DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT. CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THEIR BEHAVIOR.

POPPER

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